



S-E-C-R-E-T

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Foreign nationals may remain in Hungary only on receiving a permit from KEOKH or the local police. These permits may be requested when the foreign national reports to the aforesaid authorities. The permits are of the three following types: the temporary visitor's permit (ideiglenes tartozkodási engedély), valid for 14 days; the visitor's permit (tartozkodási engedély), valid from 14 days to 6 months; and the residence permit (lakhatási engedély), valid from 6 months to a specified period, or until revoked.

To obtain either of the latter permits, the following documents must be submitted: passport, birth or marriage certificate, and certificate of nationality.

To obtain a temporary visitor's permit, only the passport need be submitted.

The authorities responsible for issuing the permits may extend them, provided application for extension is made within 48 hours, 15 days, or 30 days for the temporary visitor's permit, visitor's permit, and residence permit, respectively.

Foreign nationals must reside in the place specified on the permit and may change residence only with the permission of the authority which issued the permit.

Foreign nationals holding a permit of residence may find employment in Hungary.

The Minister of Interior may revoke a residence permit at any time. In such cases, the foreign national must leave the country within a specified time. The minister may also require a foreign national to report periodically or demand that he leave the country if he cannot prove his citizenship or identity, or if his stay is against the interests of or dangerous to Hungary. If such a person refuses to leave, he may be removed by force.

Foreign nationals leaving the country after a stay of less than 14 days must report their departure 24 hours in advance. This does not apply to holders of transit permits. Persons having spent more than 14 days in Hungary are required to have an exit permit (kiutazási engedély). They must notify KEOKH or the local police of the date of departure and request an exit permit from them. On being granted an exit permit, they must surrender the visitor's or residence permit.

Foreign nationals who fail to report to the authorities, and all persons who lodge such foreign nationals without reporting them, are subject to a fine of 100 forints.

Foreign nationals staying in Hungary without permit or residing in a place other than specified by the permit are guilty of a felony and subject to 2 years of imprisonment.

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